

**Tom Warne, President of Tom Warne & Associates, LLC, Forum Consultant**

*“Thank you Dwight. It is great to be here. We have just come from a press conference at ITD headquarters that kicked off this undertaking. There were a lot of questions there and Chuck could have gone on and on. The press conference certainly highlights the interest in Transportation and the many changes and challenges that are being faced by the transportation industry. This Forum on Transportation Investment certainly is timely and many important transportation-related issues will be discussed in the next year. Several vehicles that are using alternative fuels were displayed at the conference. These alternative fuel vehicles certainly attract public attention in coping with higher fuel prices. Unfortunately, they also impact transportation in that their fuels are often not taxed or have greatly reduced taxing, which if this remains true in the future could reduce transportation revenue. This is just one of the many transportation challenges that the future will hold.*